

player that demonstrates the humanitarian spirit embodied by Roberto Clemente.

I am happy to honor Roberto Clemente, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his achievements on and off the baseball field.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF SONIA SOTOMAYOR

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize the achievements of the first Latina Supreme Court Justice, Sonia Sotomayor.

Justice Sotomayor graduated *summa cum laude* from Princeton University in 1976. While she was at Princeton she received the Pyne Prize, the highest academic award given to an undergraduate at the University. She continued on to Yale Law School where she was the editor of the Yale Law Journal. Sotomayor graduated from Yale Law School in 1979 and passed the bar in 1980. She immediately began working as the Assistant District Attorney in Manhattan.

In 1984, Sotomayor entered private practice, making partner in 1988 at a firm that specialized in intellectual property litigation. While working at the firm she also served on the board of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund, the New York City Campaign Finance Board, and the State of New York Mortgage Agency.

Her pro bono work at the agencies caught the attention of New York Senator Moynihan who recommended her for a seat on the New York district court. In 1992, President George H.W. Bush nominated her for a seat on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York and she was unanimously confirmed by the Senate. In June of 1997, President Clinton nominated Sotomayor for a seat on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and she was confirmed to that seat in 1998. While serving in the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, Sotomayor began teaching as an adjunct professor of law at New York University and Columbia Law School, while also serving on the Board of Trustees for Princeton University.

On May 26, 2009, President Obama nominated Sonia Sotomayor for appointment to the U.S. Supreme Court. Her confirmation by the Senate in August of 2009 made Sonia Sotomayor the first Latina Supreme Court Justice.

As our country continues to become more diverse, Justice Sotomayor serves as a powerful role model for women and Latinos in the U.S. I am happy to honor Sonia Sotomayor, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for her many outstanding achievements.

HONORING THE HISTORIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF JUAN PONCE DE LEON

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize the extraordinary life of Juan Ponce de Leon, Spanish explorer, first Governor of Puerto Rico and discoverer of the great state of Florida.

Ponce de Leon grew up in a small provincial town in Spain. Seeking adventure, he became a member of Christopher Columbus' second voyage to the New World. During that expedition, Ponce de Leon rose quickly in prominence and was soon commissioned by the Spanish King as the First Governor of the newly discovered Puerto Rico. As Governor, he helped to nurture the new and growing island that is now home to so many hard-working Americans.

The adventurous spirit of Ponce de Leon did not die with his appointment as Governor to

Puerto Rico. In 1513 he set out on what was to be his most important journey. Traveling with a crew of 200, Ponce de Leon arrived at and named Florida on April 2, 1513. As he continued his journey, Ponce de Leon became the first European to have extensive contact and knowledge of the Floridian peninsula and discovered many of the sights and wonders that Floridians treasure to this day. The discoveries and numerous accomplishments of Ponce de Leon laid the foundation for both my great state of Florida as well as the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

I am pleased to honor Juan Ponce de Leon, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his historic contributions to the state of Florida.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF RITA MORENO

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the inspiring career and numerous accomplishments of Rita Moreno.

Rita Moreno has broken new ground for Latinos in the field of entertainment throughout her career. In 1961, she became the first Hispanic actress to win the Oscar for Best Supporting Actress for her role in the movie *West Side Story*. Ms. Moreno is also one of only eleven entertainers in Hollywood to have received all four major entertainment honors: Emmy, Oscar, Tony and Grammy awards.

In addition to film, stage, television and concert commitments, Ms. Moreno fills her spare time by lecturing to various organizations and university audiences on such topics as *The Value of Diversity to our Culture*, *The Power of Language*, and *A History of the Arts in Film, TV and Theatre*. She is also involved with a number of civic and charitable organizations.

Ms. Moreno has served on The National Endowment for the Arts and as a Commissioner on The President's Commission on White House Fellowships. She has also served as a member of The President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities.

In June 2004, Ms. Moreno was awarded The Presidential Medal of Freedom by President George W. Bush. In 2007, Ms. Moreno was inducted into the California Hall of Fame by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. In 2010, she was awarded The National Medal of Arts by President Obama, as well as the Here I Stand Award for activism in the arts, and the Hispanic Organization of Latin Actresses (HOLA) Lifetime Achievement Award.

I am happy to honor Rita Moreno, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for her numerous contributions to the performing arts.

IN RECOGNITION OF MISS AUBURN TARA JONES

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to honor a special young lady in my district, Tara Jones, who is serving as Miss Auburn at Auburn University.

Miss Jones grew up in Kennesaw, Georgia and was crowned as Miss Auburn in February 2013. She ran her campaign on a platform for clean water for third-world nations and was elected to serve in this position by the student body. Tara also had fun with her campaign by doing the "Harlem Shake" to help spread her message. Jones is in her senior year.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating Tara Jones being named Miss Auburn. Her dedication to those less fortunate should be an example to us all, and I am honored today to help pay recognition to it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, on October 8, 2013, I missed rollcall vote Nos. 531 and 532. I was organizing voters on immigration reform. Had I been present I would have voted "no" on both.

TRIBUTE TO DONALD G. "IKE" MCLEESE

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a tremendous leader in South Carolina's capital city as he prepares to step down as president and CEO of the Greater Columbia Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce. Donald G. "Ike" McLeese has led the Columbia Chamber for 19 years, and has done a remarkable job encouraging cooperation among business, civic, and governmental leaders. His service is greatly appreciated and will be sorely missed.

Ike McLeese is a native of Anderson, South Carolina and earned an associate's degree from Anderson University in 1964 and a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of South Carolina in 1967.

He began his career in the political arena working on the staff of the venerable U.S. Senator Fritz Hollings. I got to know Ike when we were both young men working for South Carolina Governor John West in the early 1970s. He was the governor's Commissioner of Narcotics and Controlled Substances, and was one of the youngest commissioners in the State's history, and I was the first African American to serve as an aide to a sitting South Carolina governor. We were idealists hoping to make our mark on the world, and I am pleased to say that Ike did just that.

As a government insider, his knowledge was in demand. After the West administration ended he served as vice president for Marketing and Government Relations for the architectural and engineering firm LBC&W. Ike then worked for two Columbia public relations firms: Cook & Ruef, Inc. and Newman Saylor & Gregory, and ran political campaigns locally and around the country.

In September 1994, he was tapped to lead the Greater Columbia Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce. At the time, the chamber was \$3.2 million in debt. He turned the organization around and made it a vital part of the capital city's power structure.

Ike played a key role in protecting Fort Jackson, McEntire Air National Guard Base and Shaw Air Force Base from the base realignment taking place in Congress, and instead helped those bases grow as other military installations were closing. He cites those